

A NEW SPECIES OF *SOLIERELLA* FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
(HYMENOPTERA, SPHECIDAE)

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Recently a number of wasps of the genera *Solierella* and *Plenoculus* were submitted to me for determination by Karl V. Krombein, Entomology Research Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture. This interesting collection was made by Dr. W. R. M. Mason, Division of Entomology, Ottawa, Canada.

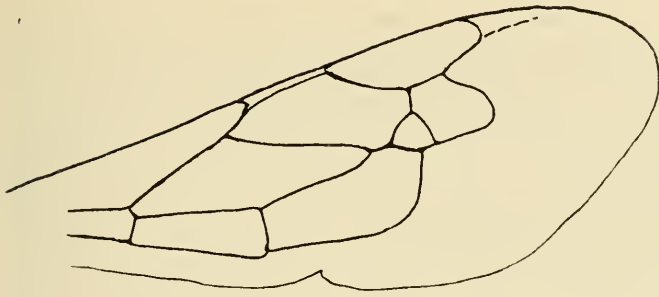
I take pleasure in naming the distinct species of *Solierella* described below in honor of Dr. Mason, whose careful collecting further reveals the richness of the wasp fauna of the desert regions of Southern California.

*Solierella masoni* Williams, new species  
(Figures 1-5)

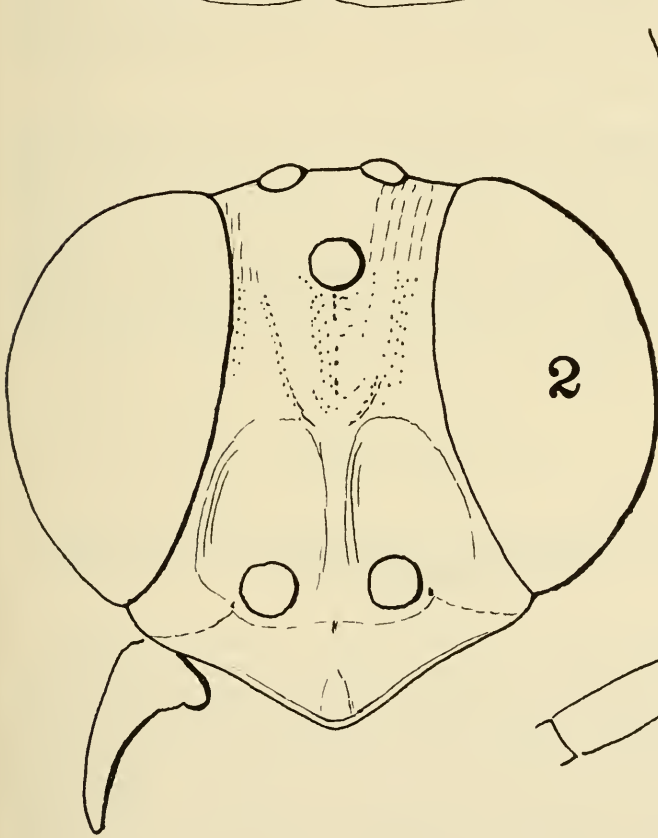
*Female* (holotype).—Length 5.50 mm. Moderately shining. Head and thorax black, abdomen orange red, mandibles honey yellow, clypeus anteriorly slightly darker than the mandibles, scape with some yellowish brown at base and apex, fore and mid femora generally blackish, hind femora yellowish brown, darker above, fore tibiae dark brown, paler beneath and at base and apex, mid and posterior tibiae and all tarsi except their apices, yellowish brown; venation testaceous. Clypeus cuneate mesad and rimmed, the arched ridge from between the base of the antennae ending near its apex; mandibles not emarginate, the malar space scarcely equalling one-half the basal width of the mandibles; antennae slender, some of the flagellar articles three times as long as wide, diminishing in length and width from about article 7; ocelli arranged in about an equilateral triangle, each posterior one less than its diameter removed from the compound eye. The front expands widely to the clypeus, the abundant silvery pile conceals much of its sculpture, it is rather gently angled back from above the wide antennal fossae, from between the lobes of which commences an indistinct V, the arms of which diverge rather narrowly as ill-defined ridges to nearly opposite the fore ocellus. The vertex is coriaceous. The pronotum is notched mesad, and the whole dorsulum finely and closely punctate. The disc of the propodeum is coriaceous, narrowed by infringing pile, the pleurae very finely wrinkled-reticulate, the posterior face shining, with some transverse wrinkles and an incised obcuneate depression. Fore tarsal comb sparse but with the latero-distal bristles twice as long as the width of their respective articles at the point where these bristles originate. In the forewing the marginal and third submarginal cells are about equidistant from the apex of the wing; first and second submarginal cells each receiving a recurrent vein. Vestiture: the silvery pile is dense on the head, parts of the thorax and propodeum and on the fore and intermediate femora, it is finer and somewhat patchy on the abdomen.

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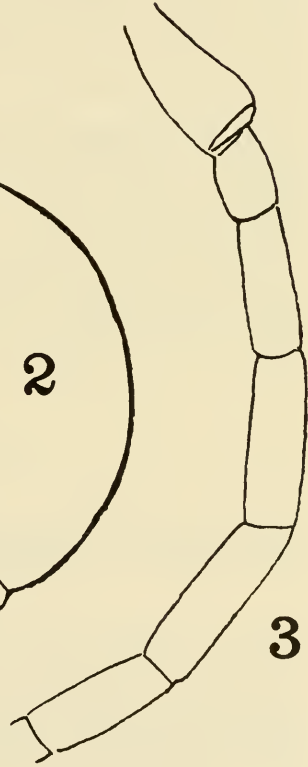
*Solierella masoni*, n. sp., holotype (female): Fig. 1, forewing; fig. 2, anterior view of head; fig. 3, antenna, first 6 segments. *S. masoni*, n. sp., allotype (male): Fig. 4, clypeal margin (freehand sketch); fig. 5, aedeagal lobe from side (some transmitted light).



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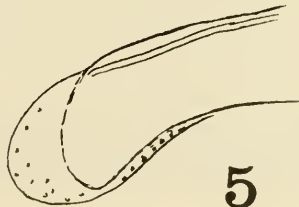
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5

*Male* (allotype).—Length 4.20 mm. Marked much as in the female. Mandibles and extremity of elypeus pale yellowish brown, all femora blackish. Silvery pile dense. Clypeus rather narrowly subtruncate from the sloping sides, its small sub-cuncate projection rather swollen and receiving the strongly arched keel. Malar space about  $\frac{4}{5}$  the basal mandibular diameter. Antennae rather slender but the articles much shorter than in the female; article 3 longer than 2 and expanding apically so as to equal about  $\frac{3}{4}$  its length, a little shorter than 4, 13 a little shorter than 11 plus 12; all articles less than twice the length of their apical diameters; articles 4-13 in profile showing above rather close-set short bristles. Ocelli in about an equilateral triangle. Pronotum notched mesad. Disc of propodeum very finely sculptured, narrowed by encroaching pile. Venation as in the female. Terminalia: Uncal lobes, from above, forming a strong bilobation; laterally each is clavate, with no teeth showing; on the inner side of each paramere is a sclerotized ridge with many stout backward-projecting teeth.

*Holotype, allotype*, 1 female and 3 male paratypes, Thousand Palms, Colorado Desert, Riverside County. Holotype, allotype and 2 male paratypes, 27-IV-1955; 1 female and 1 male paratype, 7-IV-1955 (W. R. M. Mason).

Somewhat intermediate between the large *Solierella* of the *striatipes* and *major* group, resembling these in having long slender antennal articles in the female, but on the other hand, resembling most of the other groups in having a more evenly triangular second submarginal cell that receives only the second recurrent vein.

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## THE PRESENT CONDITION OF THE GRAVENHORST COLLECTION OF ICHNEUMONIDAE

(HYMENOPTERA)

HENRY TOWNES, *Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*

The I. L. C. Gravenhorst collection contains the most important set of types of European Ichneumonidae. Not only are there many hundreds of types, but the species were described quite early, in 1829, or some of them before. In April, 1958, I had opportunity to study parts of this collection, which is now at Wroclaw, Poland, in the Zoological Museum of the University of Wroclaw, under the care of Prof. Jan Noskiewicz. During my stay Prof. Noskiewicz made me welcome, provided working facilities, and gave me the recent history of the collection, as reported below.

Before World War II (1940), the Gravenhorst collection was in the Zoological Museum of the University of Breslau, Germany, which is the same place that it now occupies except that "Breslau" is now called "Wroclaw" and is part of Poland rather than of Germany.